



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

December 16, 2015

Major General John M. Hicks, USAF  
Chief of Staff, United States Special Operations Command (USSOC)  
7701 Tampa Pt. Blvd  
MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33621-5323

Dear General Hicks:

"The Para-Commandos" full complement of parachute demonstration profiles have been found acceptable to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the purpose of aviation events associated with an FAA Form 7711-1, Certificate of Waiver and/or Authorization (CoW/A).

Further, in addition to qualified active duty military, these command-approved profiles must be performed only by the individuals listed on the USSOC Parachute Team Roster of DOD General Service (GS) demonstrators, dated December 16, 2015, as they have been found acceptable based on a license issued by the United States Parachute Association (USPA).

This acceptance will remain valid until December 31, 2017 unless suspended, rescinded or revoked. FAA acceptance should not be construed as a special waiver, exemption or exception to guidelines and provisions of any aviation event CoW/A. It is expected that these maneuvers will be performed within the guidelines and provisions of the CoW/A for each aviation event.

By providing the team roster and profiles, USSOC has shown an equivalent level of safety to "DOD sanctioned" military parachute teams and thus, the team members need not be listed on an application for a FAA Parachuting Authorization application, FAA Form 7711-2. FAA acceptance advises FAA field personnel that the sponsor or responsible person may make the application for the team.

We will assure the demonstration profiles and team rosters are available to our Flight Standards Regional and District Offices. This package will also be used when conducting site feasibility determinations and airspace requirements for the future demonstrations. Any changes to these documents must be submitted to this office for acceptance prior to initiation

This office is available at your convenience to answer any questions you may have concerning FAA aviation events or parachuting policies. Sue Gardner, FAA National Aviation Event Specialist (NAES), can be reached by telephone at (630) 880-5834 or via email at [sue.gardner@faa.gov](mailto:sue.gardner@faa.gov) or Mike Millard, FAA Parachute Operations, can be reached by telephone at (202) 267-7906 or via email at [mike.millard@faa.gov](mailto:mike.millard@faa.gov).

We appreciate the cooperation you have extended to the FAA and look forward to continue working with you and your entire team in assuring aviation safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark E. Giron', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark E. Giron  
Manager, General Aviation Operations Branch